

§ 700.502 Commandant of the Coast Guard.

(a) The Commandant of the Coast Guard is the senior officer of the United States Coast Guard.

(b) When reporting in accordance with section 3, title 14 U.S.C., to the Secretary of the Navy, the Commandant of the Coast Guard will further report to the Chief of Naval Operations for military functions. The Chief of Naval Operations shall represent the Coast Guard as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

§ 700.503 Duties and responsibilities.

In exercising command over the Coast Guard while operating as a service of the Navy, the Commandant shall:

(a) Organize, train, prepare and maintain the readiness of the Coast Guard to function as a specialized service in the Navy for the performance of military missions, as directed.

(b) Plan for and determine the present and future needs of the Coast Guard, both quantitative and qualitative, for personnel, including reserve personnel.

(c) Budget for the Coast Guard, except as may be otherwise directed by the Secretary of the Navy.

(d) Plan for and determine the support needs of the Coast Guard for equipment, materials, weapons or weapons systems, supplies, facilities, maintenance, and supporting services.

(e) Exercise essential military administration of the Coast Guard. This includes, but is not limited to, such matters as security, discipline, intelligence, communications, personnel records and accounting conforming, as practicable, to Navy procedures.

(f) Enforce or assist in enforcing Federal laws on the high seas and on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(g) Administer, promulgate and enforce regulations for the promotion of safety of life and property on the high seas and on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. This applies to those matters not specifically delegated by law to some other executive department.

(h) Develop, establish, maintain and operate, with due regard to the requirements of national defense, aids to mar-

itime navigation, ice breaking facilities, and rescue facilities for the promotion of safety on and over the high seas and waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(i) Engage in oceanographic research on the high seas and in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States in coordination with the Office of the Oceanographer of the Navy.

(j) Continue in effect under the Secretary of the Navy those other functions, powers and duties vested in him by appropriate orders and regulations of the Secretary of Transportation on the day prior to the effective date of transfer of the Coast Guard to the Department of the Navy until specifically modified or terminated by the Secretary of the Navy.

Subpart F—Commanders in Chief and Other Commanders**§ 700.601 Titles of commanders.**

(a) The commander of a principal organization of the Operating Forces of the Navy, as determined by the Chief of Naval Operations, or the officer who has succeeded to such command as provided elsewhere in these regulations, shall have the title "Commander in Chief." The name of the organization under his command shall be added to form his official title.

(b) The commander of each other organization of units of the Operating Forces of the Navy, or organization of units of shore activities, shall have the title "Commander," "Commandant," "Commanding General," or other appropriate title. The name of the organization under his command shall be added to form his official title.

§ 700.602 Responsibility and authority of a commander.

(a) A commander shall be responsible for the satisfactory accomplishment of the mission and duties assigned to his command. His authority shall be commensurate with his responsibilities. Normally, he shall exercise authority through his immediate subordinate commanders; but he may communicate directly with any of his subordinates.

(b) A commander shall insure that subordinate commands are fully aware of the importance of strong, dynamic

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leadership and its relationship to the overall efficiency and readiness of naval forces. A commander shall exercise positive leadership and actively develop the highest qualities of leadership in persons with positions of authority and responsibility throughout his command.

(c) Subject to orders of higher authority, a commander shall issue such regulations and instructions as may be necessary for the proper administration and operation of his command.

(d) A commander shall hold the same relationship to his flagship, or to a shore activity of his command in which his headquarters may be located, in regard to its internal administration and discipline, as to any other ship or shore activity of his command.

§ 700.603 To announce assumption of command.

Upon assuming command, a commander shall so advise appropriate superiors, and the units of his command. When appropriate to his command he shall also advise the senior commanders of other United States armed services and officials of other Federal agencies and foreign governments located within the area encompassed by his command, concerning his assumption of command.

§ 700.604 Readiness.

A commander shall take all practicable steps to maintain his command in a state of readiness to perform its mission. In conformity with the orders and policies of higher authority, he shall:

(a) Organize the forces and resources under his command and assign duties to his principal subordinate commanders.

(b) Prepare plans for the employment of his forces to meet existing and foreseeable situations.

(c) Collaborate with the commanders of other United States armed services and with appropriate officials of other Federal agencies and foreign governments located within the area encompassed by his command.

(d) Maintain effective intelligence and keep himself informed of the political and military aspects of the national and international situation.

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(e) Make, or cause to be made, such inspections as necessary to ensure the readiness, effectiveness, and efficiency of the components of his command.

§ 700.605 Observance of international law.

At all times a commander shall observe, and require his command to observe, the principles of international law. Where necessary to fulfillment of this responsibility, a departure from other provisions of Navy Regulations is authorized.

Subpart G—The Commanding Officer

§ 700.701 Applicability.

In addition to commanding officers, the provisions of this chapter shall apply, where pertinent, to aircraft commanders, officers in charge (including warrant officers and petty officers when so detailed) and those persons standing the command duty.

§ 700.702 Responsibility.

(a) The responsibility of the commanding officer for his command is absolute, except when, and to the extent, relieved therefrom by competent authority, or as provided otherwise in these regulations. The authority of the commanding officer is commensurate with his responsibility. While he may, at his discretion, and when not contrary to law or regulations, delegate authority to his subordinates for the execution of details, such delegation of authority shall in no way relieve the commanding officer of his continued responsibility for the safety, well-being, and efficiency of his entire command.

(b) A commanding officer who departs from his orders or instructions, or takes official action which is not in accordance with such orders or instructions, does so upon his own responsibility and shall report immediately the circumstances to the officer from whom the prior orders or instructions were received.

(c) The commanding officer shall be responsible for economy within his command. To this end he shall require from his subordinates a rigid compliance with the regulations governing